

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 04515 111121Z

51

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 CU-05 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /116 W

----- 084250

R 111009Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 4813

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4515

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, KS

SUBJECT: COURT-MARTIAL PANEL SENTENCES SEVEN TO DEATH

REF: SEOUL 4483

1. COURT-MARTIAL SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED JULY 11 THAT SECOND COURT-MARTIAL PANEL HAD LEVIED SEVEN DEATH SENTENCES, FOUR LIFE IMPRISONMENTS, AND SIX 20-YEAR TERMS. SENTENCES UPHOLD FULL MEASURE OF PROSECUTOR'S JULY 8 DEMAND FOR SENTENCES IN CASE OF 21 OLDER, NON-STUDENT DEFENDANTS ACCUSED OF HAVING BEEN LINKED TO THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY PARTY. SENTENCES ARE SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY HIGHER AUTHORITIES AND APPEAL TO APPELLATE COURT-MARTIAL.

2. SEVEN SENTENCED TO DEATH WHO INCLUDE TO YE-JONG, HEAD OF THE NOW DEFUNCT PRP AND SIX OF HIS FOLLOWERS, ARE FIRST TO BE SENTENCED TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT SINCE ESTABLISHMENT OF COURT-MARTIAL PANELS UNDER EMERGENCY MEASURES ISSUED LAST JANUARY.

3. ON JULY 10, PROSECUTORS REQUESTED CAPITAL PUNISHMENT FOR SEVEN STUDENT DEFENDANTS BEING TRIED BEFORE COURT-MARTIAL PANEL NO. 1 (REFTEL) AND DEATH SENTENCE HAS ALSO  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEOUL 04515 111121Z

BEEN REQUESTED FOR SIX DEFENDANTS IN ULLUNG ISLAND SPY

RING CASE BEING TRIED BEFORE CIVIL COURT. IT NOT YET CLEAR  
WHEN SENTENCES WILL BE PASSED ON LATTER TWO GROUPS.

4. THE 21 PANEL NO. 2 DEFENDANTS WERE FOUND GUILTY IN  
VARYING DEGREES OF VIOLATING NATIONAL SECURITY ACT AND  
ANTI-COMMUNIST LAW, ARTICLES OF THE CRIMINAL CODE GOVERNING  
REBELLION, AND OTHER RELATED LAWS. PRESS REPORTS COURT-  
MARTIAL AFFIRMED THAT DEFENDANTS ATTEMPTED TO OVERTHROW  
GOVERNMENT IN COLLABORATION WITH STUDENT ACTIVISTS WHO  
WERE ALLEGEDLY CONSPIRING TO ORGANIZE VIOLENT MASS  
UP-RISINGS.

5. ACCORDING TO JAPANESE EMBASSY AND OTHER SOURCES,  
PROSECUTOR EXPECTED REQUEST SENTENCES FOR TWO  
JAPANESE BEING TRIED BEFORE PANEL NO. 3  
JULY 12. WE HAVE NO SOLID INFORMATION AS TO SEVERITY OF  
SENTENCES PROSECUTOR WILL DEMAND.

6. COMMENT: COURT-MARTIAL PANELS SPEED IS ISSUING  
VERDICT AND ITS UNUSUAL DECISION TO FULLY UPHOLD  
PROSECUTION'S DEMANDS ARE FURTHER INDICATION IF ANY  
NEEDED OF GOVT'S DETERMINATION TO DEAL HARSHLY WITH  
ITS OPPONENTS. SENTENCING WILL HEIGHTEN TENSION AS  
OPPOSITION GROUPS AND PUBLIC IN GENERAL WAIT IN  
APPREHENSION FOR VERDICTS ON STUDENT GROUP AND TWO  
JAPANESE.  
HABIB

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CAPITAL PUNISHMENT, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, TRIALS, COURTS MARTIAL, POLITICAL PRISONERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** martinml  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974SEOUL04515  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740185-0258  
**From:** SEOUL  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740757/aaaabwwo.tel  
**Line Count:** 88  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** SEOUL 4483  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** martinml  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 JUL 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <30 JUL 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2003 by martinml>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COURT-MARTIAL PANEL SENTENCES SEVEN TO DEATH  
**TAGS:** PINT, PINS, KS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005